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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/043,879 | 01/14/2002 | Robert H. Fagan | 20846-176942 | 6278 |

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EXAMINER

DADA, BEEMNET W

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2135

DATE MAILED: 01/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/043,879

Applicant(s)

FAGAN ET AL.

Examiner

Beemnet W. Dada

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 October 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in reply to an amendment filed on October 12, 2005. Claims 1, 3, 4, 10 and 16 have been amended and claim 2 has been canceled. Claims 1 and 3-16 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 3-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Le Berre EP 0 940 960 A1.

4. As per claims 1, 8-10 and 14-16 Le Berre teaches a method for secure mutual authentication comprising the steps of:

authenticating a customer at a first web site [column 7, lines 13-22];

receiving a selection from said customer at said first web site requiring transfer to a second web site [column 7, lines 22-29];

generating an authentication message for said customer at said first web site, said authentication message devoid of intelligent information of said customer [column 7, lines 31-42 and figure 5]; and comprising a permanent customer pseudonym (i.e., user ID, see fig 5) that uniquely identifies said customer and is devoid of intelligent information of said customer [column 6, lines 34-49]; and

transferring said authentication message from said first web site to said second web site for authentication of said customer by said second web site [column 7, lines 37-57 and column 9, lines 11-19].

5. As per claim 3, Le Berre further teaches the step of generating an authentication message further comprises randomly generating said customer pseudonym [column 10, lines 44-54].

6. As per claim 4, Le Berre further teaches the step of generating an authentication message further comprises incorporating a date/time stamp, a partner name and an optional uniform resource locator (URL) with a return address for said first web site into said authentication message [column 6, lines 41-55].

7. As per claims 5-6, Le Berre further teaches the step of generating an authentication message comprises incorporating a source identifier, a date/time stamp, an optional return URL, a customer pseudonym, a cryptographic key, a transaction identification and authenticated data for the first web site into said authentication message [column 6, lines 41-55 and figure 5].

8. As per claim 7, Le Berre further teaches the step of authenticating said customer at said second web site using said authentication message generated by said first web site [column 9, lines 1-19].

9. As per claim 11, Le Berre further teaches the step of authenticating said customer at said second web site occurs when said customer has previously visited said second web site,

and further comprising the step of prompting said customer to log in to said second web site when said customer has not previously visited said second web site [column 9, lines 1-19].

10. As per claim 12, Le Berre further teaches said authentication message comprises a uniform resource locator (URL) with a return address for said first web site, and further comprising the step of returning said customer from said second web site to said first web site using said URL without further authentication by said first web site [column 6, line 51].

11. As per claim 13, Le Berre further teaches the step of generating said authentication message for said customer at said first web site [column 9, paragraph 0033].

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments filed October 12, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the art on record fails to teach an authentication message that comprises a permanent customer pseudonym that uniquely identifies the customer and is devoid of intelligent information of the customer. Examiner disagrees.

Examiner would point out that Le Berre (EP 0 940 960 A1) teaches generating an authentication message for the customer at a first web site, said authentication message devoid of intelligent information of said customer [column 7, lines 31-42 and figure 5] and further comprising a permanent customer pseudonym (i.e., user ID, see fig 5) that uniquely identifies said customer and is devoid of intelligent information of said customer [column 6, lines 34-49]. Examiner asserts that Le Berre teaches the claim limitations and therefore respectfully maintains the rejection.

Conclusion

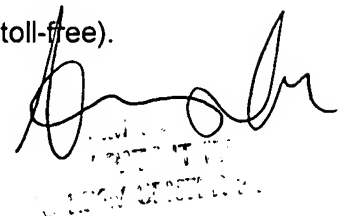
THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Beemnet W. Dada whose telephone number is (571) 272-3847. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (9:00 am - 5:30 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Beemnet W. Dada
Examiner
Art Unit 2135